## THE POCAHONTAS TIMES the old tim

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CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, MAY, 16 1918

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is week Mr. L. M. McClintic, of

The Coal & Iron. What a vision of wealth and prosperity that name once conjured. How the votes rolled out of Fur Fork and swept the county into the Republican column.

Towns sprang up and the drummer walked the railroad from one town to the other with his grip when the trains did not run to suit. Even as they do on Loup Creek where the coal miners congregate. The towns of Olive, Braucher, Burner, May, Gertrude, Wildell, and Oxley occupied the sixteen miles of river and railroad which lies between Durbin and the divide, where the Greenbrier river heads, and Randolph county begins. That is the part of the Cold & Barren which lies in Pocahontas county. That rich territory wrested

the divide, where the Greenbrier river heads, and Randolph county begins. That is the part of the Cold & Barren which lies in Pocahontas county. That rich territory wrested from Randolph county by arbitration in the eighties. We have a sovereignity over that neck of woods, but no treaty rights for the rich and arrogant county of Randolph enraged at the outcome of her contest with the pastoral people of Pocahontas, refused to record the findings of the court.

It is true that landed proprietors holding under the Crown had to recognize the Convention to have an act of the Legislature passed to insure quiet title and possession just like the Scottish chiefs used to have to do after a change in the government.

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It is true that landed proprietors holding under the Crown had to recognize the Convention to have an act of the Legislature passed to insure quiet title and possession just like the Scottish chiefs used to have to deafter a change in the government.

This threw to Pocahontas a big boundary of spruce and hemlock for est country so rich in timber as to render it worthless for anything else

It was into this country, the town mentioned above sprang up and flour ished between the years 1903 and 1915, but they are gone now like Ninevah and Tyre.

We knew that the change had tak en place. That no less than sever postoffices had been allowed to lapse but we did not realize how great the mentioned above sprang up and flourished between the years 1903 and 1915, but they are gone now like Ninevah and Tyre.

We knew that the change had taken place. That no less than seven postoffices had been allowed to lapse, but we did not realize how great the change was until last week when we traveled through that desolate country over the well kept Western Maryland railroad.

There once was a forest here that was fairly black with rich colored evergreen. Now it is a waste land. It looks brown and a small tree known as round wood is springing up. It is all the difference between poverty and wealth, between the big woods and the brush.

The clear mountain streams flow F

change was until last week when we traveled through that desolate country over the well kept Western Maryland railroad.

There once was a forest here that was fairly black with rich colored evergreen. Now it is a waste land. It looks brown and a small tree known as round wood is springing up. It is all the difference between poverty and wealth, between the big woods and the brush.

The clear mountain streams flow between beautiful green banks and look like the sweet waters they are. To a stranger there would be nothing unusual in the country for barren hills are the rule and not the exception in most mountain regions, but

the old timer knits his brows at the purling brooks, and thinks of the big trees.

It probably took a hundred thousand years to build up those forests. The slow process of erosion and natural selection, decay, and enrichment went on. Then came a period of ten years in which men took off the luxuriant tree growth, and perhaps in another hundred thousand years another crop will be ready. An evergreen cutting does not repair itself like that of the deciduous hardwood forests. When a spruce country is cut over nothing but intensive tree planting will restore it.

The wonder is that in all that

rolesus. When a spruce country is cut over nothing but intensive tree planting will restore it. a The wonder is that in all that nt great lapse of time, the present gennel eration should have been the one to is have lived just at the harvest time 1-Some aeons ago said about the year 99,999 B. C., the chances of any t particular persons being on duty on earth between the years 1903-1915 V A. D. would have looked like a f chance so slim as not to be worth considering. Just like the chance of any of the elect seeing Moses in the hereafter. The departed man, the story runs, upon his arrival in Heaven expressed a desire to see Moses. But Heaven was so big and so densely populated that the pearest be a

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Just like the chance of any of the syndicates a elect seeing Moses in the hereafter. plain plain The departed man, the story runs, upon his arrival in Heaven expressed a desire to see Moses. But Heaven pear in a sal was so big and so densely populated that the nearest he ever came to seeing Moses was in the course of years to meet a man who had talked to a man who had heard a man say that prize title he saw the place where Moses once stood. Has the experience of seeing the great resp

primeval forest destroyed been griev- But the ous or glad? We answer that the the 31,000 present generation is more to us than to keep t any that went before and more to us proud, ar than any yet to come, so we are as beginnin much entitled to these cedars of Leb- Now th anan to build our temples as any the sw other generation at any other time. It is an

There was once a man by the name in the r of Henry Phillips who was looking 3,000 fe e our after this land in the seventeen- been for and ni neties. He found the surveyor of lawyer brier Bath county living at Marlins Bot- has wo Vir. tom, and through his labors he sur- found veyed out 41,000 acres at the head good ti

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State, and Bath county living at Marlins Bot-Greenbrier tom, and through his labors he suroll of Virveyed out 41,000 acres at the head waters of Greenbrier River and this t circumsurvey takes in most of that rich hemselves country. t, after a The surveyor of Bath county, one material William Poage treated it as belongthat the wor about to ing to Bath county, but even in those but cippus, tness of days Randolph laid claim to it as furnish it is shown that a Randolph surveyor made a survey of 31,000 acres for at Poca-Richard Smyth about the same time, er to the which interfered, interlocked and a distinlapped on the 41,000 acres. Il import-It was this abominable tangle of confidentlines that caused Thomas Jefferson to and elechontas Coun see that the Northwest Territory was laid out like a checker board, and it But we st was by reason of that lesson that you vision go to the west to find definite surt name veys and to Virginia for wonderful rolled land lawyers. eoun-Henry Phillips having acquired this land, paid little or no attention trumto it, not even paying the paltry that the c Olit taxes assessed against it. With other hoe were vhen large surveys it lay idle and useless. the Fur Cven The legislature of Virginia finding to them. List that such large grants hindered the ad store

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go to the west to find definite surveys and to Virginia for wonderful land lawyers.

Henry Phillips having acquired this land, paid little or no attention to it, not even paying the paltry taxes assessed against it. With other large surveys it lay idle and useless.

The legislature of Virginia finding that such large grants hindered the development cast about for a remedy, and evolved the law of forfeiture, which was a pretty bright thought considering that on no other part of the world's surface was there such a total disregard for land once acquired.

So in the eighteen-thirties and eighteen-forties, they began to cut up these lands and sell them for the benefit of the school fund.

The Phillips 41,000 acres offered a fair subject for the new law, and it was cut up and sold to the highest bidders and when it was all tolled up the various parcels as bid in showthat the 41,000 acres brought \$212.00 which was about the cost of

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The work of some surveyor on this Phillips tract in the old days developed an interesting example of the didoes that the magnetic needle cuts in the had tak-course of time. This is called the an seven variation of the needle. In the frozto lapse, en north there is a shifting magnetic great the pole that moves east for a while and when we then moves back and crosses the true te coun- north line and wanders west, and evern Ma- ery little palpitating magnetic needle hung on a pivot thousands of miles ere that away, follows it and points to it in a colored truly idiotic way. What the pole is te land. or why it travels, no man can say but eknown woe to the surveyor who does not al-. It is low for the deflection of the needle poverty by the course of time. The further woods he goes the wider the mark.

The western boundary of the old Henry Phillips 41,000 acres is about seven miles long. One surveyor, who sought to establish the corners, started at the beginning corner and ran barren, by the same degree called for in the excep- papers. He took no thought of time, us, but and if he had ever been instructed in

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the way of the varia the dle, he was absent nu big forget it. When his distance r he had left a long triangle, what Hmight call a three cornered triang ts. All these years the faithful comitpass had been "where thou goest I nt will go," and the result was that the en lack of co-ordination on the part of Xin the pole, the needle and the young nsurveyor left out a strip of 960 acres erof land, known to this day among the cognoscenti as the "Hamilton elf od Wedge." rain a is A citizen of Randolph County, "the 99

colony of low cunning," swooped down upon it like a hawk on a chicken and grabbed it, and it made one n- of the prettiest lawsuits that men evto er waged for the excitement of it.

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of any acres fell into different hands and luty on with all the vicissitudes of the old 3-1915 time land grabbers, the taxes were like a not neglected enough to subject it worth forfeiture. It would go through sheriff's sales and be bought in by of the syndicates and so, but to make it after. plain plain to you, there is a privruns, ity in such a such a sale with the deressed linquent ancestor that does not apeaven pear in a sale as forfeited land.

lated Thus in some faiths the hope of o see- heaven is mereiy delinquent and not forfeited as other bodies hold.

This made the Smyth 31,000 the prize title of the hills. Every one of the big forfeited surveys had to give way to it. So it was treated with g the great respect.

But there was one weakness about t the the 31,000 acres that did something than to keen the amore

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Just tell him tan h y that prize title of the hills. Every one of Just tell him ik Ka once the big forfeited surveys had to give That wants him on The Devil said "He way to it. So it was treated with And Bill said, "Ho g the great respect. I'm running here of Now tell me what t griev- But there was one weakness about "What can I do," t t the the 31,000 acres that did something "My dear old Raise than to keep the owners from being too If there is anything to us proud, and that was the fact that the To help you, I sure The Kaiser said, beginning corner called for a cypress. re as And I will try to to Leb- Now the cypress tree grows in The way that I am any the swamps along the coasts. On earth a modern I've saved for this It is an evergreen. It is never found ne. And I've started or name in the mountains at an altitude of That it will be a m oking 3,000 feet. So a cypress has never You leave it to Ka teen- been found, though many a learned My army wentthr for of lawyer and many a shrewd surveyor Shooting women as We tore up all her Bot- has wondered where it could be. If We tore down ever e sur- found it might upset some perfectly My Zeps dropped b e head good titles, and the country would be Killing both old an d this treated to the sight of the most re-And those the Zep at rich spectable title in the country running Were taken out an I started out ir P amuck, With the aid opo ty. one We have got a farfetched theory The Belgians lar belong- that the word is not cypress at all, And wouldn'tht in those but cippus, a term used in some re-My submarinsare to it as gions of the United States, and which Why you shoul se surveyor means the same thing as a "set They go snew g stone," a term often found in surveys And will sight sh I was runniashin

It is an evergreen. It is never found v other time. in the mountains at an altitude of n by the name 3,000 feet. So a cypress has never was looking been found, though many a learned he seventeenlawyer and many a shrewd surveyor e surveyor of has wondered where it could be. If Marlins Botfound it might upset some perfectly abors he surgood titles, and the country would be s at the head treated to the sight of the most re-River and this spectable title in the country running of that rich amuck, We have got a farfetched theory county, one it as belongthat the word is not cypress at all, even in those but cippus, a term used in some reaim to it as gions of the United States, and which olph surveyor means the same thing as a "set 000 acres for stone," a term often found in surveys he same time, here. Be that as it may, no cypress terlocked and has ever been found on E. P. Shaffer's res. Fork of Cheat or any where else in able tangle of the highlands of Randolph and Pocahas Jefferson to hontas Counties. Territory was board, and it But we started to talk of the Cold sson that you & Barren aspect of the Coal & Iron definite sur-country. Where those great lumber wonderful operations were a few years ago there

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& Barren aspect of the Coal & Iron country. Where those great lumber operations were a few years ago there is now the wornout look that may be seen in the abandoned lumber lands of Pennsylvania. We used to think that the old tobacco lands of Tuckahoe were about the most desolate, but the Fur Fork can now be compared to them. That country always looked stern and wild. It now looks stern and wild and naked.

It should be noted that Durbin has improved about a thousand percent, like a surviver prospering on the departure of competitors. Durbin is vastly citified and Marlinton must wake up if she is to keep the first place in the county.

## UNTIL THE NEXT HARVEST

Readers, let us have your ears and

The Belgian poisonous And wouldn't arn 'em's My submarin t me pass Why you should are devils. Why you share determined they go she see them And will sing through I was running ship on state of the shout. Till about a r ago, When a manual Woo Told me to & He says to my Will I don't want rou So be sure, t U-b To sink or the We have to So, dear Bil And if you do stop You'll have to light us I did not listen to him And he's coming after With a million Yanke From their home acre Now that's why I ca I want advice from I know that you wil Just what I ought t 'My dear old Kaiser There isn't much to For the Yanks will Than I can for you

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